

animals and pets are to our community. I am so happy to hear that the 47 masks that Carley helped raise the funds for will benefit nine different agencies with 22 of them staying right here in Des Moines. I am proud to represent constituents like Carley who truly exemplify what it means to be an Iowan. I will continue to fight in Congress for communities like Carley's to ensure they have the support and voice they deserve.

HONORING ROBERT MEEK JR.

**HON. VIRGINIA FOXX**

OF NORTH CAROLINA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, March 9, 2021*

Ms. FOXX. Madam Speaker, I rise today to recognize Robert Meek Jr. who has served as my District Director since 2016.

To put it simply, Bob is a man of both conviction and courage. No matter the duty, he executes it with poise, a strong dedication to service, and with an abiding gratitude for those he works alongside.

As a retired Colonel of the U.S. Army Reserve, as the son of a Second Lieutenant who served as a B-25 Mitchell bomber copilot in World War II, and father of 3 military sons, Bob has dedicated his life not only to being an advocate for military families, but also serving as a strong voice for servicemembers both past and present.

From traveling thousands of miles across North Carolina's Fifth District with me to meeting with countless scores of proud North Carolinians who are proud to live there, Bob has always acted with a servant's heart, one of his many features that everyone admires.

I speak for both myself and the staff when I say working alongside Bob has been an honor. As he enters this new phase of his life, may God continue to bless him, his family, and the lives of everyone he will continue to serve.

IN GRATITUDE TO BLAIR BOWMAN

**HON. HALEY M. STEVENS**

OF MICHIGAN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, March 9, 2021*

Ms. STEVENS. Madam Speaker, I rise today to recognize an exceptional constituent and community leader in Michigan's 11th District, Mr. Blair Bowman.

Mr. Bowman is a lifelong Michigander who graduated from Farmington High School in Farmington, Michigan, obtained his undergraduate degree from Michigan State University and law degree from University of Detroit School of Law.

In 2005, after following in his father's footsteps by entering the real estate brokerage and development field, he built a facility in Novi, Michigan, which operates today as the Suburban Collection Showplace. This is one of a few examples in the country of a truly privately owned and operated convention and exposition center, with nearly two million people passing through annually.

When the COVID-19 pandemic struck, Mr. Bowman wasted no time in offering his center to be transformed into an alternative care facil-

ity for COVID-19 patients. The U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, Detroit District led the 250,000 square foot conversion of the Suburban Collection Showplace convention center into a medical facility in 15 days, where they created a 250-bed space for patients from area hospitals.

Now, the previous regional field hospital is hosting one of Oakland County's COVID-19 vaccination clinics, helping to defeat this virus once and for all.

Madam Speaker, I ask my colleagues to join me in celebrating the outstanding contributions Mr. Bowman has made to his community, and to our country at large.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

**HON. BRAD R. WENSTRUP**

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, March 9, 2021*

Mr. WENSTRUP. Madam Speaker, due to previously scheduled travel, I was unable to vote in person in the House of Representatives on March 8, 2021. On that day, I missed two recorded votes. On Roll Call No. 63, had I been present, I would have voted "Nay." On Roll Call No. 64, had I been present, I would have voted "Nay."

HONORING PAUL JEWELL

**HON. H. MORGAN GRIFFITH**

OF VIRGINIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, March 9, 2021*

Mr. GRIFFITH. Madam Speaker, I offer these remarks in honor of Paul Wesley Jewell of Salem, Virginia, who passed away on February 17, 2021 at the age of 79. Mr. Jewell was a photographer by profession who actively participated in Salem's community organizations.

Mr. Jewell was born on December 28, 1941 in Roanoke County to Curtis W. and Ethel Starkey Jewell. As a young man, he graduated from Andrew Lewis High School, excelled at athletics, and belonged to the Boy Scouts of America. He made the community he grew up in his lifelong home. As a professional photographer, he owned several studios, including the Deyerle Studio for over 25 years. After retiring from professional photography, Mr. Jewell remained active in the Salem area as a member of the First United Methodist Church of Salem and of Taylor Masonic Lodge No. 23 and as a funeral assistant at John M. Oakey & Son Funeral Home.

Mr. Jewell is survived by son Paul "Matt" Jewell and wife, Peggy; daughters Beth Kennedy and Susan Grimberg and her husband John; granddaughters Cierra McDaniel and husband Jared, Kristen Porter and husband Josh, Kaitlyn Duhon and husband Matt, Kyndsey Cook, Kendall Cook, Gracie Grimberg, and Olivia Grimberg; and great-grandchildren Aria McDaniel, James Duhon, Avery Duhon, and Mason Duhon. I would like to extend to them my condolences.

THANK YOU SKIP MARANEY

**HON. JOE WILSON**

OF SOUTH CAROLINA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, March 9, 2021*

Mr. WILSON of South Carolina. Madam Speaker, I will always treasure the encouragement of Skip Maraney during my service in Congress.

For many years, he was the mainstay of the Breakfast Club on Wednesday at Longworth Cafeteria for members of Congress, Capitol Police officers, and staffers.

I appreciate him inviting me to co-perform with Delegate ELEANOR HOLMES NORTON in the Hexagon Theatre political satirical musical comedy revue.

Skip is recognized as an Honorary Resident of South Carolina from over twenty years of vacationing at Hilton Head Island.

The following is an official announcement of his upcoming retirement issued by the National Star Route Mail Contractors Association:

JOHN V. "SKIP" MARANEY

Skip Maraney is retiring after 52 years of employment as the executive director and lobbyist with the National Star Route Mail Contractors Association. The Association's office is located at 325 East Capitol Street Washington, D.C.

Skip will be honored for his steadfast and loyal service by the Board of Directors of the Association at a regional meeting of members on April 19, 2021, in Baltimore, Md.

Skip is the second executive director of the Association. The Association is made up of over 500 members across the United States and U.S. territories, and the Association represents approximately 1,800 contracts to the United Postal Service.

Members of the Association are independent business owners who contract with the United States Postal Service to haul mail/deliver mail in areas of the United States where the Postal Service doesn't deliver. In the rural areas of the county the Star Route contractors deliver what is referred to as the last mile.

Skip has outlasted 14 Postmaster Generals, nine Presidential Administrations, countless members of Congress, and countless Postal Service transportation managers. Skip has attended countless hearings on matters of postal reform legislation held by the Committee on Oversight and Government Reform and Committee on Ways and Means. Skip is known for expertise on all legislative matters relating to the Postal Service.

Skip is a true shoe-leather lobbyist. He believes meeting a member of Congress or a committee staffer in person instead of exchanging emails, texting, or talking over the phone. He claims it is always harder to say "no" to a person when talking face to face.

Skip's genuine smile and firm handshake made him distinguishable among the staff and visitors in the halls of Congress. Over the years Skip was often been mistaken as a former member of Congress.

HONORING IDA SHANOSKI COVUCCI

**HON. DONALD S. BEYER, JR.**

OF VIRGINIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, March 9, 2021*

Mr. BEYER. Madam Speaker, it is with great pleasure that I recognize Ida Shanoski Covucci and her upcoming 100th birthday.